

# ITAZUKE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2019

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING YOUR ITAZUKE NEWSLETTER

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**IAA REUNION MINUTES 6 OCT 2018**

The meeting was called to order by president Robert Clark '66 at 1020. Also present were vice president Jim (Tiny) Dwyer '65, secretary Joseph Boling '60, treasurer Jeanne Maxey Brown '61, editor/publisher Teresa Shea Green '69, and about 50 members and guests.

Clark - recognition of reunion hosts for 2018 (Dave Gibson '66, Jan Arbuckle Bloomer '67, Nanci Jones Russ '65, Mary Anderson Baker '68, Jim "Tiny" Dwyer '65, Joe Easley '69, Melanie Dell Young '68, Seyla Gibson, Kathleen Ohrt Kennedy '65, IHS band).

Boling - announcements: dues will be accepted from any who wish to pay. The technique for operating the auction this year is no change from the last reunion (silent section only). Deliver auction lots to Melanie Dell Young ASAP, please.

Boling - minutes of the last biennial meeting have been distributed around the room. We will forego reading them unless somebody wants to hear them read. Moved and seconded (Michael Holden/Jim Dwyer) to accept the minutes of the last biennial meeting, 6 August 2016. Passed unanimously.

Secretary's report from Boling: We mailed right on 400 issues of the most recent newsletter, and emailed about 540. Two years ago, we were at 437 and 515, but two years before that we mailed 725 and emailed 380, so we have made good progress in obtaining email addresses from the members. We have lost contact with net only a dozen people since the last reunion - losses have been largely matched by new finds (no doubt the result of using Facebook). Joseph Boling

announced that he is retiring at this reunion, having held the secretary position since 1993. He concedes to Mary Anderson Baker '68, who also ran for the position in this election.

Treasurer's report from Brown: We started the biennium with about \$9800. Over the two years we collected \$800 in dues. Our expenses were \$198 for internet, \$50/yr for our Nevada corporate fees, and we mailed three newsletters totaling \$1400. We issued an advance of \$2300 for the hotel deposit for this reunion, and transferred funds to the reunion account to maintain the \$3500 minimum balance required by the bank. The money market account presently has \$3443.98 and the checking account has about \$13,000, being run by the reunion folks (that includes reunion registration fees that will be used to settle reunion expenses). We do not yet know what the balance will be after the reunion bills are paid. Jeanne Brown announced that she is also retiring at this reunion, having held the position since the early '90s. She concedes to Jan Bloomer '67, who was reunion treasurer for this reunion and who was on the ballot to be assistant treasurer. "There are too many alligators at home." Brown reminded the members that dues checks must be made out to the association, not to the treasurer. No-longer-new banking rules do not allow the treasurer to endorse checks made out to her over to the IAA.

Mike Holden '70 - is the reunion committee going to make a report on funds to be returned to the association? Bloomer - we have to keep \$3500 on deposit to maintain a separate reunion account. Jim Dwyer - are we having to

move to a bank closer to the new treasurer? Bloomer - we will stay with Bank of America, which is already where all of our accounts are. Clark - the second persons on the ballot (Baker behind Boling and Bloomer behind Brown) were intended to be assistants - now the incumbents are jumping the fence. He expressed recognition of Boling and Brown, who have had a good run. Dave Gibson - will our corporate registration still be in Nevada? Boling - yes, our corporate agent is Carol Scavetta '58, a Nevada resident. Residence is required for the agent.

Editor's report from Green: Joe Boling gave the numbers. I am trying to do two newsletters a year - they cost about \$500 per mailing for copying and postage. Any here who are still getting a paper newsletter, please give us an email address. It's tedious to send out 500 paper copies. Most of the recent content has been business information. Social information is on the Facebook page; most of that is chitchat that is not useful for a newsletter, unless it involves a mini-reunion. Jan Bloomer - can we use bulk mail? Boling explained the vagaries of the USPS's bulk mail system, and that is not practical for an organization our size. Jeanne Brown - what happened to the scheme to charge members \$10/year to receive paper copies? Boling - that motion was defeated at the last biennial meeting. Clark - if you want a paper ballot [distributed separately from the newsletter], you have to send a self-addressed stamped envelope - that covers our postage. Louise Easley - are any parents still getting paper copies? Boling - yes - we don't know whether they want

them or not. Jim Dwyer - what happens to returned mailings? Boling - they are forwarded if we get a new address on the returned copy (they actually get a clean copy mailed to the new address) or they are dropped if the PO says there is no forwarding address. Jim Dwyer - how do other organizations handle the expenses for paper newsletters? Holden - the newsletter is for communication; it's our megaphone, whether it goes by paper or electronically. We are trying to reach as many people as we can. What are we to do with the dues we collect if not for communication? How many go through their email every day? Direct marketing works. Brown - we took in \$800 in dues and spent \$1400 for newsletters. At some point we will run out of money. Gibson - maybe we can revisit the concept of finding out who still wants the newsletter - if somebody wants to pay for it, let them pay dues. We try to break even on reunions, so that they cost the association no money. Moved/seconded (Gibson/Rick Gilbert '72) that the board solicits a response from those who want to keep receiving the newsletter. Fred Thomas '61- the USPS is not following through on returning mail for bad addresses. Gibson - why keep losing money? Were any members dropped if the previous postcard requesting an email address was not returned? Boling - no. Clark - suggest now that we send out cards to ask if they still want a paper copy. If not, drop them. We do still have people out there who do not come to reunions. Green - we can send a postcard saying that if you do not respond you will be dropped. Gibson - restate the motion. Boling - that we mail out a query to confirm that people still

desire to get the newsletter. Kathleen Kennedy - when post cards went out, were they inside the newsletter? If one did not want to hear from IHS again, it would have been thrown away without opening it. How about just a postcard asking if they want to still get mail? Gibson - I amend the motion to just instruct the board to address the issue. Passed unanimously in that form.

Clark - I want to readdress the Mary Jo Schnell award - I want to make it official that we have established the award. Moved and seconded (Fred Thomas/Joseph Boling) that we establish the award and continue to award it in perpetuity as long as we can afford it. Clark - at the last reunion we discussed this - to give it to someone exemplifying her energy and dedication to the association. She was dying and made it to Nashville but went directly into hospital and died there. Jim Dwyer - I talked to her Friday of the Nashville reunion and she said that she did not want anyone to come visit her. She had assisted me to be the 8000<sup>th</sup> commenter on Facebook, but I was preempted by another 8-lover (my post was 8001). Holden - so we will biennially present an award to a recipient? Can we take nominations through the newsletter? Gibson - we can also do it by BallotBin. Mary Jo was always digging up new members for the IAA. Motion passed unanimously.

Reunion committee report - Gibson - these are the reunion committee members for this year: Dave Gibson '66, chair, Jan Arbuckle Bloomer '67, Mary Anderson Baker '68, John O'Brien '60, Jim (Tiny) Dwyer '65, Kathleen Ohrt Kennedy '65,

Judy Beard Castro '66, Edith Gordon '65, Nanci Jones Russ '65, Melanie Dell Young '68, Joe Easley '69. O'Brien and Gordon were unable to attend. This was the first reunion for the committee that was established two years ago. Some participated more than others, but all had something to add. If others want to join, please step up. If some who helped this year want to stand down, thank you.

Election of officers - Clark - those who have not electronically voted, get a paper ballot after the meeting and vote. Online voting closes at noon today. With Boling and Brown resigning, there are no longer any contested positions. Louise Boling - can we vote by acclamation? Clark - we had only one additional nomination, for president, Ron Castille '61, who withdrew. Gibson and Clark will be VP and president. I was trying to get backups for the treasurer and secretary and it did not work out as I expected, so we will now have Jan Bloomer and Mary Anderson Baker as treasurer and secretary. Teresa Green will be editor. Holden - if we mailed out a ballot and don't have them closed yet, how can you vote by acclamation? Gibson - we were trying to maximize participation so that not just the reunion attendees would participate. We did get some responses from non-attendees, especially about the next reunion locale. Moved/seconded (Louise Boling/Fred Thomas) that we elect the officers by acclamation given that there are no contested positions. Passed unanimously.

Gibson - after this meeting I will sit with the old reunion committee and anyone else interested and have a discussion about who will want to be on

the next committee. We will pick up some at the reunion locale. Moved/seconded (Bloomer/Louise Easley) that one of the Board be on the committee. Gibson - this is important, because the reunion committee this time did not have much insight - we redid some things. We will be trying to pass things on to the next committee, eliminating unnecessary work. It will make things easier for the next committee. Clark- I was not on the committee, but I was always available. The board should be the appointers, but not necessarily have to be on the committee. We had people who volunteered to join a committee before the last reunion, so the committee was established before the Colorado Springs reunion. We later rewrote the bylaws to make the committee a formal part of the organization. We don't necessarily have to have a board member on the committee - the bylaws call for the committee to elect a chair. We want to know who wants to stand down. We will appoint people as they volunteer. Fran Nakabayashi Wolf '66 - can the current committee work with the next group for a few months to pass info along? Bloomer - we put everything on a USB so all reports are available to be used. Clark - I want to have an operating manual for the committee to pass on to the next. I also want to do that for other officers. Gibson - everyone on the present committee will be willing to assist in starting up. If nobody volunteers, we can still put on a reunion, but it works better if some locals are involved. Bloomer - tentatively what venue is in front? Clark - I can't check it until balloting closes. We will know today. [See addendum to the minutes

below.] Motion passed unanimously (to put a board member on the committee).

New business - Clark. I have a bone to pick with Facebook. Their recent security breach was not good. We are looking into using the website to communicate through. John O'Brien is no longer able to give it the attention it needs. We can put up a chat site for organizational discussions. I would also like to enlarge the website. Jack Lewis '63 said he would help, and also my sons. We want to get some webmasters working. It's now using an old format that can be updated. We might have to pay \$50-70 a month rather than \$100/year. Fred Thomas - Go-Daddy gives veterans organizations discounts - check it out. Go-Daddy is an ex-marine. Green - it is cheaper if you get five years of service at a time. Clark - we could also do our voting and surveys on the website. Consolidate all the stuff we have online to give us more security. Louise Boling - and maybe a little more straightforward and easier to use. Clark - any serious volunteers? Any negatives? Gibson - one person can easily get overwhelmed by a website, so having multiple people contributing would be a big help. Pam Shupe '74 - I will be trying to get more people from my age group involved. The last principal at Itazuke posted a message about how great it had been to work in DODDS Far East.

Jim Dwyer - we also need to thank Dana Allin Minnis '65 for her work on the Facebook page as its monitor. Clark - I will have a shirt from Cozumel for her. There is a Facebook page for Itazuke airmen, who are asked not to associate with the student site. We are allowed to



participate in that one. We have two student sites - the social site, and the information and discussion site where the bylaws and officer discussions take place. We try to keep social discussion off of that site. Gibson - there have been a lot of political differences over the years, and we try to keep that off of the Facebook site - keep the emphasis on our similarities, not our differences. Bob (Clark) has had a rough year, but been in there for us.

Jim Dwyer - before we quit, I found an Itazuke teacher's son's Facebook post - it sums up our feeling for each other [he read Osterhout's post].

Moved/seconded (Holcomb/Easley) to adjourn. Passed.

Gibson - we did not hire a photographer - we want all to send their photos in and they will be distributed on a thumb drive.

Addendum - after online voting for reunion sites had closed, Las Vegas was the runaway winner. The next reunion will be planned for Las Vegas, Nevada, summer/fall of 2020.

Minutes taken and transcribed by Joseph E Boling, secretary

## LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Find Itazuke Dependents School at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/47789233578/>. Dana Allin Minnis ('65) manages the group account. The Itazuke Alumni Association Information and Discussion page for more formal reunion communication is located at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/644501885681740/>.

## MARY JO AWARD



As mentioned, we have adopted a Mary Jo Hodge Shnell award to recognize alumni who exhibit the enthusiasm that she embodied. The first award went to Mary Jo and was accepted in her stead by her daughter, Gretta DeSantis, and her granddaughter Elena. We were all touched by their graciousness at the reunion.



## TRAVELING MEMORY QUILT

Designed and made by Carol Scavetta '58, it was raffled off at the Orlando Itazuke Reunion. Pat Fass '67 had the winning bid.

Wanting to share this with more than just herself, she decided to sign it and pass it on to another. It next went to Terri Lamb '68 and will be followed by Mary Anderson Baker '68, Melanie Dell Young '68, Judi Beard Castro '66, and Louise Easley Stewart '65.



Dana Allin Minnis '65 will be collecting a list of those who wish to host the quilt in the future. Notify her on Facebook if you would like a turn.

Terri Lamb says, "For the past few weeks, I have had the joy and privilege of 'hosting' this amazing Itazuke Memory Quilt. I got it next and have so enjoyed it. I will be sending it on to another Itazuke Alum with much love. I



decided to take it with me to the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World last night to highlight it with all the festivities, lights and magic. Your journey continues, Memory Quilt. God speed."

What a fun way to keep the reunion memories going!

## 2020 REUNION COMMITTEE

The Reunion Committee is looking for volunteers to help organize the reunion in Las Vegas. If you live nearby and can help them out, please contact Dave Gibson at [just2toonice@aol.com](mailto:just2toonice@aol.com).

**Itazuke Alumni Association  
405 Hill St.  
Capitola, CA 95010-3604**

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We're from Itazuke don't you forget  
Our hearts can't forget!**

**Predecessors:  
Hakata American School 1946  
Fukuoka American School 1947-1952**

**Successor:  
Hakata High School 1971**

**Closed physically in 1972:  
"In our thoughts forever"**

**We've got the spirit and  
we've got the pep.  
We're from Itazuke  
we won't forget**

**IAA Officers for 2019 – 2020**

President .....	Robert Clark '66
Vice President .....	David Gibson '66
Secretary .....	Mary Anderson Baker '68
Treasurer .....	Jan Arbuckle Bloomer '67
Editor/Publisher .....	Teresa Shea Green '69